## **BEFORE**

## THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

## SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 98-490-C - ORDER NO. 98-938

**NOVEMBER 30, 1998** 

IN RE: Application of Davel Communications Group, Inc. and Peoples Telephone Company, Inc. APPROVING for Approval of Corporate Acquisition, Merger, and Related Transactions.

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Application of Davel Communications Group, Inc.(Davel) and Peoples Telephone Company, Inc.(Peoples)(collectively the companies) for approval of the transfer of control of Peoples and its assets used and useful in the provision of telecommunications service in South Carolina, pursuant to a merger agreement between the parties. The Application also specifically asks that we approve the corporate acquisition, merger and related transactions.

After the requisite notice as required by the Executive Director, no Protests or Petitions to Intervene were received. The companies now request expedited review of the Application, and, accordingly, file the verified testimony of Theodore C. Rammelkamp, Jr., Senior Vice-President, General Counsel, and Secretary of Davel. According to Rammelkamp, no authority will need to be modified as the result of this transaction, since Peoples and Telaleasing Enterprises, Inc. (Telaleasing) a subsidiary of Davel, will continue to provide payphone service under their present names and authority. The witness states that economies of scale will allow Telaleasing and Peoples to continue to

provide high quality services to their existing and prospective customers and compete effectively in the pay telephone service market in South Carolina.

Accordingly, we grant expedited review and also grant the relief requested in the Application, based on the testimony of witness Rammelkamp.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Executive Director

(SEAL)

ATTEST: